



December 2016

RUAWAI RAMBLER

A Newsletter for Ruawai and Surrounding Area
From the Ruawai Promotions and Development Group



From the Editor



Here we are with the December issue of the Ruawai Rambler. It is now two years ago since we started our Newsletter and I am pleased to say that it has gone very well. The first issue was 4 pages. Since then it has grown to 10 pages. Every time I come to the next issue, I wonder if I will have enough material to fill it up; but at times I have trouble fitting it all in. So that is very good. Again my thanks to all those people who contribute on a regular basis or just occasionally. Every article is appreciated and helps to keep the people in our area informed about what is going on. Feedback about the Rambler has been positive. We are always open to ideas and constructive criticism to make further improvements. Many thanks also to all our advertisers, especially 'Beds & More', our main regular sponsors. Without you we could not do this. **Contact for articles and advertising: Jo Wessel, Editor, Ph. 439 2507, email jhwessel@xtra.co.nz**

Best wishes for a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from the RPDG Committee: Peter Flood, Jo Wessel, Tony King, Elaine Crompton, Tina McCullough, Bruce Crompton. Absent: Kevin Hardstaff, Anna Curnow and Nicky Reid.

Hi Folks and Merry Christmas.

It seems to be no time since last year when we were preparing for the Christmas parade.

Elaine, Tina, Jacky and Bidy have been busy organising activities for this year.

Santa Photo's at the Post Shop. Christmas window decoration competition. Christmas Carols on 19 December. The Christmas parade which is on the 17th December promises to be a great event as usual. The parade will be accompanied with the usual raffles and stalls. This event has been well supported for many years and the local business community has always generously sponsored the prizes. Please remember that the 4-Square stock our Branded Tee shirts, Polo shirts, Caps and Beanies. We have now got permission to build the new Gazebo and hope to start work in the near future. I would like to thank the Ruawai Promotions Committee for all of the work that they have put in over the last year.

Once again Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Be safe out there. Bruce Crompton, Chairman, RPDG

Council Update



Your new Council have been busy with lots of induction sessions. These allow officers to bring us all up to speed on the different aspects of Council work eg infrastructure, planning, regulatory, finance etc. It has been interesting for all of us to build a deeper understanding of these activities. We have also been meeting with community organisations from around the region. The three museums have presented to us and Council recognizes the importance of the work they do in archiving and treasuring the stories of our communities. The business of museums is an evolving one. Visitors expect a more interactive, story-telling experience. This creates challenges for the District's museum staff and volunteers. The passion, knowledge and dedication of those who work in

our museums is to be congratulated. I know I have been inspired to visit our local museums more frequently. We have also met with business associations, ratepayer associations and community clubs to better understand the activities of these groups. We intend to continue to meet regularly with such groups. Please let me know if you would like to meet with us. The first formal Council meeting was held on 09 December in Mangawhai. We dealt with several procedural matters and considered a development planned for Mangawhai and urgently needed repairs to a potable water scheme also in Mangawhai. It has been an exciting couple of months and I've been enjoying working with, and getting to know, my fellow Councillors and our Mayor a little better. **By Anna Curnow, Councillor for West Coast Central Ward**

Update on the Ruawai Stop-bank Cycle and Walking Trail

I'm delighted to report that the Raupo Drainage Committee agreed in principle to the Memorandum of Understanding that has been drafted to cover the relationship between Council, the Committee and the Community with regards to this trail. This enables us to start looking at the exact costs and funding sources. It's probably a little early to give a timeframe but nonetheless we are all systems go! **Anna Curnow**

Outstanding Turnout for 84th Year

The Ruawai Boys' & Girls' Agriculture Cub and Ruawai Primary were delighted with their recent Calf Club Day and Community Gala, held at Ruawai Primary School on 29th of October. With fine weather and high numbers of entrants and spectators, the day was deemed a success all round. Principal Curtis Gaylor said "This event is our school major fundraiser for the year so we are thrilled to have raised \$2,500 from the gala, which will directly benefit our learners at Ruawai Primary. I would especially like to thank our hardworking staff, families and the Ruawai Boys' & Girls' Agriculture Club and sponsors. It really says a lot about Ruawai as a community when you consider all the people who came together and generously volunteered their time to ensure the day was a resounding success."

Ruawai children were well represented at the Northern Wairoa Central Ag. Day on 2nd November, winning several categories and taking home best overall team in the three calves category. **Vanessa Preston**



New Principal at Ruawai College

Recently I had a very pleasant meeting with the new Principal of Ruawai College, Raeleen Harre. Not everybody in our community receives the College Newsletter so Raeleen supplied me with following article with some information about herself. Thank you Raeleen

Kia ora Koutou

Ko Tarawera toku maunga

Ko Tarawera toku awa

Ko Te Arawa toku waka

Ko Ngati Rangatihi toku iwi

Ko Rangiohia te marae

No Matata ahau

Ko Raeleen Harre toku ingoa

Tena Koutou, Tena Koutou, Tena Koutou katoa

It is an honour and a privilege to be the new Principal of Ruawai College. The very warm and generous welcome I have received speaks volumes about the community that we have moved into. My educational landscape includes Primary, Intermediate, Secondary and overseas teaching. The most recent experience that I have had was as Deputy Principal at Waiuku College - a co-educational Years 9 -13 secondary school of just under 900 students.

Originally from Matata, I come from a family of 5 girls and 2 boys.

Married to Peter, we have two children, Thomas & Kate. We also have the luxury of having three beautiful mokupuna. I attended Hamilton Teachers College, Waikato University and finished my Master's degree in Education through Massey University. Teaching in New Zealand has taken me to Taranaki, the Bay of Plenty, Franklin and now the sunny North.

I look forward with excitement to hearing about the vision that you as a community have for our rangatahi here at Ruawai College.

Remember, it is not my vision, but rather a shared vision that will be forged together of what 'success' will look like for our students.

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Expectations are high and our values of respect, resilience and responsibility are our foundation for going forward. Be rest assured that I take seriously the huge responsibility that has been placed upon me and I will work very hard to uphold the values and mana of this College in all respects. Ko te tamaiti te putake o te kaupapa – The child is the heart of the matter. I look forward to working with our school community to ensure that the students of Ruawai College experience success and are prepared in every way for the world beyond.

Raeleen Harre M. Ed. Hons.

Trudie's Hairdressing Salon

It looked like ladies in Ruawai were going to have problems getting their hair done before Christmas when the local salon closed up recently. But here is Trudie coming to the rescue. Who is Trudie? She is the daughter of local dairy farmers Barry and Heather Bowers. Trudie grew up in Ruawai along with her three sisters Rene, Sherena and Melissa. Now Trudie has taken over the local hairdressing salon. Here is Trudie's own story:

My Partner and I have been in Australia for four years working hard and I have studied my level 3 hairdressing. I qualified in January and have worked in some of the most amazing hair salons in Perth, trained by both two educators from the UK. What an experience it was! We relocated back the homeland and moved to Ruawai in February and we wouldn't have it any other way. We had our baby girl Ella-Maria in June and are so glad we can bring her up in this beautiful little country town. Due to it being Christmas in 6, I am open to appointments only from Monday to Friday 9am- 5pm until December 24th. Then from the 9th January 2017, I will be open Monday, Wednesday and Friday. If you cannot make 9am – 5pm because of working hours, please let me know and I can arrange a late night for you.

I look forward to seeing you all soon. **Phone: 4392508**

Trudie Bowers

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Exciting News for Ruawai and Especially Book Lovers

Two empty shops in Ruawai are going to be back in business. The shops between the Long Flat Bacon Co. and the Hair Salon are becoming bookshops. The owner, Robyn Dormer, bought a house on Wharf Road in Ruawai some time ago and is now moving her bookshops here as well. Robyn tells me that she has a wide variety of books including fiction, non-fiction, books on specific subjects (religion, boating, fishing etc.). Also a lot of educational books - Primary, Secondary and beyond. Robyn says she is especially keen on such books as she is an ex-High School teacher. There is also a lot of music on LP's, CD's, cassette tapes as well as DVD's and sheet music. So really something to look forward to. Here is what Robyn wrote to me:

Two bookshops full of books will be arriving next year in Ruawai. They are being moved from their current home on the Devonport Wharf where they have been located for many years. The Devonport wharf is due for re-construction and all previous tenants are being asked to move. Many of the books are on a database and sold on the site www.abebooks.com. This will continue to be the case when the bookshops move. The reason two bookshops are being set up in Ruawai is that there are too many books for one premise. The move will take place some time in the first half of 2017- final date for removal is not yet known. Sue Neal who used to work in the shops when they were located in Devonport and who moved to Ruawai in January 2016, will be a key person in the new enterprise.

Robyn Dormer, Owner; 027 200 5653

Kaipara Kumara

Anthony Blundell has supplied the Ruawai Rambler with a history of Kaipara Kumara. As you can see from the article, Kaipara Kumara has improved its facilities and more is on the way. It is a great example of how "industry"(if that is the right word for this) can work in a small town. Thank you Anthony



Greenhill Gardens Ltd. was established in 1970 by the late Gary Blundell and his family. The business re-branded in 2002 to Kaipara Kumara Ltd. and initially focused on mushroom cultivation and production at its Ruawai-based facility - which is where Portstar Plastics is now situated. During the 1970's the business was also growing and supplying crown pumpkin to complement the established direct marketing relationship with its key supermarket customer - Foodtown.

In 1972 Kaipara Kumara started working with growers in the region to establish a continuous supply of kumara. The kumara supply base was expanded, enabling the business to support grower/suppliers in the region. Its key focus was on the marketing – specifically the

grading, packing, selling and distribution of kumara and some seasonal crown pumpkin and buttercup. Mushroom cultivation was phased out in the early 1980's. Kaipara Kumara continued with steady growth through the 1990's with kumara, setting up New Zealand's first commercial kumara washing, grading and packing plant in 1991, along with the implementation of the Kaipara Kumara Seed Programme, dedicated to improving kumara quality.

In 2002 the Blundell family invited key grower/suppliers to purchase a shareholding in Kaipara Kumara. The new business model enabled a conscious decision to vertically integrate itself into the supply chain and place itself in a stronger position to grow the business. Kaipara Kumara places considerable importance on long-standing relationships with grower/suppliers - which is paramount for the business to exist. The late Max Henderson, and his family, were the first kumara supplier to Kaipara Kumara in 1970, with his son, Brian, still involved with Kaipara Kumara on an advisory and management level today. Melvyn Evans, who is approaching retirement mode, has been a valuable grower/supplier for around 40 years. Melvyn's father, Bill, was the first commercial kumara grower in the district in the 1940's. The geographic spread around the northern Kaipara region helps balance overall yield and performance of kumara grown for any particular season.

Kaipara Kumara operates one of Northland's premier kumara pack-houses situated at the old dairy company in the heart of Ruawai. It has annual sales of nearly 6,000 tonnes and currently employs 44 permanent-casual staff. The business operates under very strict guidelines and maintains its own Food Safety Quality Programme, which is backed up by annual independent auditing. Kaipara Kumara, and its growers, were among the first in NZ to attain accreditation in the 'New Zealand Fresh Produce Approved Supplier' quality assurance programme - known now as NZ GAP. This is a quality assurance programme that provides a traceable, accountable system from "grower to plate". It ensures best practices are in place for the production, packing, selling and distribution of New Zealand fresh produce, and reduces the risk of health, safety and environmental issues - so customers can buy with confidence.

Kaipara Kumara maintains an active and key role in working with Progressive Enterprises (www.countdown.co.nz) to manage the domestic kumara supermarket category. The relationship with Progressive now spans over 46 years. Other key domestic customers include Mr Chips (www.mrchips.co.nz) and Proper Crisps (www.propercrisps.co.nz). The business continues to deliver value for all its partners – from growers, staff, customers, right through to the end-consumers.

Kaipara Kumara were amongst the first participants in the 5+ADay (www.5aday.co.nz) initiative of United Fresh NZ Inc. set up in the early 1990's. They maintain an active and supportive role for the organisation and its promotion of fruit and vegetables to New Zealand consumers. Anthony Blundell is Vice President elect of the United Fresh Executive.

Kaipara Kumara is a very proud supporter of the local community - including the local Kindy, Primary School and College. Along with that, the local Volunteer Fire Brigade, sponsorship of many local sporting and club groups, and support for the many activities that take place in Ruawai and surrounding community.

In early 2017 Kaipara Kumara will be upgrading the "wash end" of its kumara packing line. This follows the upgrade completed back in mid-2014 of its "grading and packing end". Both upgrades are/and have been significant capital expenditure undertakings by Kaipara Kumara. It demonstrates the commitment and faith it has in all the people associated with the business. Not only is it an investment in Kaipara Kumara, but you could also say an investment into the future of the town of Ruawai. There are also plans afoot for an upgrade of the pack-house facility in the next couple of years as well so watch this space!

On behalf of everyone at Kaipara Kumara, we would like to extend a huge appreciation for what the Ruawai and surrounding community has done for us over the last 46 years! We look forward to another 46 years! And we wish you all a very safe and happy festive season!

Anthony Blundell





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About Tsunami Warnings

This information was supplied by Ian Beattie. Ian is spokesperson for the Ruawai Community Response Group. Thank you Ian for supplying us with this important information.

In the early hours of Monday 14th of November, the residents of Ruawai were woken abruptly by the township's Tsunami warning sirens. This was the first real event activation of these sirens since their installation approximately two years ago. There have been many questions and comments from residents since this event, indicating there is still some confusion amongst residents concerning what to do in the event of Tsunami siren activation. These questions and concerns are important and we hope this article will answer many of those questions and alleviate any concerns residents may have.

Why are there Tsunami sirens in Ruawai in the first place?

With increased awareness of Tsunami and with global catastrophes, including the Indian Ocean and Japanese events, Central Government agencies have worked to identify areas and communities within New Zealand that are at risk from Tsunami. Ruawai was identified as one such community and, as such, was incorporated into the Northland Tsunami warning network. Our geographical position perhaps gives us a false sense of security and one could argue that it is very unlikely we would experience the type of Tsunami wave portrayed in the media. However the simple fact that a lot of Ruawai is below or only just above sea level means that we are very much at risk from a tidal inundation event. The dynamics of a Tsunami wave are far more complex than a really big wave crashing onto the beach! In short, Yes there is a Tsunami risk and that is why the sirens are in the township.

Why are the sirens only in the town and not in outlying areas?

Good question. The placement of the sirens was determined by Civil Defence based on their risk-planning methodology and information from Geo Net computer modelling scenarios. The only local input was the actual placement of the sirens within the area prescribed to obtain as much coverage as we could.

Why are our sirens activated when the main threat appears to be on the East coast or elsewhere?

Our sirens are part of the Northland-wide network. These sirens are activated under the direction of Civil Defence by Northpower and Top Energy in the far North. To date, I believe our community is the only West coast location with sirens, but, unfortunately, at present there is no way to isolate our sirens. So if there is a threat to the East coast our sirens will be activated as well.

What do you need to do in the event of a Tsunami siren activation?

Firstly, the details of what to do and how to prepare yourself and family for any Civil Defence emergency in Ruawai can be found in the Ruawai Community Response Plan. It is available online and please take the time to read it and make the preparations that are suggested in the plan, Simply **Google 'Ruawai Community Response Plan'** and follow the links. **Secondly**, a Tsunami siren activation does NOT mean drop what you are doing and grab the kids and the cat and head for the hills. **What it does mean is that there has been a Tsunami threat identified for Northland and you need to seek information on that threat and assess your actions based upon that information.**

You can access information from traditional sources such as Radio and T.V. But more up to date information can be found on the Northland Civil Defence website or Facebook page. It is entirely up to you which form of media you use to gain information, but it is important that you seek that information.

Be wary of unofficial social media updates as these can be very misleading and, in some cases, downright incorrect. So remember, a Tsunami siren means seek information about the threat. But as is the case here and anywhere in the world, if you are in a coastal location and feel a strong earthquake, you'd be well advised to put some distance between you and the sea as quick as you can.

On behalf of the Ruawai Community Response Group, have a very Merry Christmas and don't make emergency preparations your New Years resolution, Do it NOW! **Cheers, Ian Beattie**

Rainfall figures supplied by Kura Newall. Thank you Kura Here are the rainfall figures for Sept, Oct and part of Nov

Sept - 148mm
Oct - 97mm
Nov - 71mm
up to 22/11/2016

The total rainfall so far for the year is 1064mm, quite a bit more than all of last year. Total last year up to the end of Dec was 971mm
Total for 2006 was 1268mm



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Peter Flood is a regular contributor to our newsletter with information about farming. Thank you, Peter.

The season started so good for grass growth and milk production in our area with some herds heading for record per cow production; but nature has an uncanny way of levelling. Along came October, which should have more settled weather, but alas, no. This October has been one of the wettest I can remember and milk production plummeted along with mating performance. The sun finally came out early November but production only improved slightly. I think there are no exceptions to this, that I know about anyway. So if you think you are alone you are not. We fared better than the Waikato region, which are 14% down on a not-so good-season before. I just put that down to Kaipara farmers being better than other areas in the country; and that is my story and I'm sticking to it with a smile. The prospect of improved payout from last year's sad result looks promising too. As always, we don't have it until we bank it; so normal caution applies. Farmers' spirits have lifted with the sun finally coming out and global prices lifting a little. I think the biggie is that when we can feed our cows well on pasture we are 90% there in lifting spirits.

Dairy farmers are still very strapped for cash so our survive industries, if relying solely on dairy farmers to support their survival, have a while to go yet before fortunes, if you can call it that, change. Christmas is almost upon us so it will be a good time to plan a little well deserved time off farm for yourselves and staff for a spot of fishing or a break away. So get the relief milker organised nice and early.

Peter

Ruawai Community Church

The other day I was thinking about what a great community we live in. For us as a family it has been a privilege to have been involved in various community organizations that have enhanced our lives. Well yes, there has been some delicate times, but one needs to realize that's life. The fact is that we have many great organizations doing a good job, punching well above their weight in a small community like Ruawai. We can be proud of that. I have heard many views of what Christmas means, most very good, a few unrepeatable and some based on hurt and misinformation. We can have all sorts of ideas but

*From the Ruawai Church
Merry Christmas and a Happy New
Year*



the undeniable fact is that Jesus was born and did walk this earth. Christianity is about God reaching out to us, not us earning our right to reach out to God. Jesus is God's gift to us-so, in my eyes, this is the central point of Christmas. I very much enjoy Christmas. It's a time where the work load winds down (actually I just cut corners and get lazy) and family become very important; lots of laughing, talking and fun. Let's forget about the things that haven't gone so well, focus on Christmas and remember the fact that we have a fantastic community punching well above its weight. What a great place to live in!

!Also a few dates - Sunday Dec 18th Sunday School prize giving

Thursday Dec 22nd @ 7pm Christmas Carol service

Please note (due to cutting corners (and being lazy) there will be no Church service on Christmas Day. **Des Bickers**

Ruawai now has a junior Cricket Team.



There are 12 registered players who train on a Thursday evening at the College. They play on a Saturday morning, either in Dargaville or Whangarei. Their first game was on the 5th November and they are all super-excited about the season ahead.

If you would like to assist with trainings, or sponsor a trophy for the end-of-season prize giving please contact:

Nat Davidson 027 4590881.



Ruawai Garden Club doings.



Hi to my fellow gardeners in Ruawai. Haven't we been having the most typical spring weather this year. Very hard to work in your garden when it is raining one minute and sweaty sunshine the next. Anyway to RGC happenings: We held our annual Rose Show on Saturday the 12th of November. We had a lot of 1st time competitors this year, which is very heartening, while still retaining our long-standing champions and all the yearly strivers. Lunch was a tasty affair again, with people at every table. Kitchen was busy, busy! The Champion Bloom was entered by Nadia Ambler, who wins many of our various sections every year. On Tuesday 15th the RGC had another little foray on a bus, with nearly 30 people participating, in a lovely trip to Matakana. Took off at 9.30 with our destination the Matakana Country Park. On arrival we all had plenty of time

to wander around, checking out the delightful craft store (spending money), quite a few animals there which you can feed, and a little railway to ride on. Pity the weather was not that compliant, but it was all good. Then we all settled inside the Bramble for the most delicious lunch. Just oodles of food-cold beef & chicken, Italian pasta salad, other salads all piled high. Then to top it all off, chocolate mud cake, strawberries & cream. So Yummy! Then off on the bus again to look over the Morris & James pottery at Warkworth. Really beautiful pottery there, expensive but so beautiful. On the bus again and a little tiki tour through the back blocks of Kaipara Flats this time, till we emerged onto Highway 16 ;so travelled the back road to Wellsford. We arrived back in Ruawai about 5.30, so all had a very full day. Thanks again to the bus driver Gary (Dallas). And to all gardeners Carry On Weeding .

.Merle Jackson

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Remember to update your vehicle registration and purchase your road user charges .

Take note that lunch breaks are now from 12.00 to 1pm

Seasonal greetings to all from management and staff at Ruawai Traders and Post Centre.



With Karen McKenzie, Lighthouse PR, brainstorming The Wild Side publicity

UPDATE FROM THE "WILD SIDE"

My memoir illustrating the spiral into addiction and out again into recovery and restoration is poised for release to the New Zealand marketplace in February 2017 with the help of Lighthouse PR and distributor Greene Phoenix Marketing. The new version, The Wild Side, supersedes the original book titled Take a Walk on the Wild Side which is now out of print. The Wild Side is essentially the same story with some updated content and a photo gallery and our New Zealand stock is being delivered in December to supply NZ bookstores, eg. Whitcoulls etc. This was made possible by the amazing support of a handful of generous donors who got behind a recent PledgeMe crowd-funding campaign. I continue to receive messages from readers who've received hope for change or been encouraged in some way by this book from Ruawai. It can be a lifeline for anyone caught in the cycle of addiction, and a source of comfort and understanding for everyone who loves an addict. It is very exciting to see this story now ready to reach into the darkest corners of society where it is needed most. The Wild Side is now

Janet Curle

available internationally online in both paperback and eBook wherever books are sold.

Ruawai Lions Club Activities

Ruawai Lions have been busy with various projects and more events are in the pipeline....

Dinner Meeting – 3 November

Ruawai Lions Club were delighted to welcome guest speakers Suzie Reyland and NZTA engineer Jim Sephton to their November dinner meeting to update us on the replacement of the two one way bridges and the upgrade of the highway in that area. They gave a full presentation of this very worthwhile project where the main highway will be realigned with two new bridges further upstream. Mr Sephton showed us engineering maps of the proposed Road Re-Alignment. Approximate Start Date - Summer 2018 - completion date approximately 2020. Mr Sephton has offered his services to inform Service Groups or schools of current up-dates.

Ruawai/Methven Lions Exchange Project

Ruawai students that had recently spent 10 days being hosted by Methven Lions Club also gave an excellent presentation at our November dinner meeting informing us of the many activities they participated in while staying in Methven. Skiing, tramping, helicopter ride, horse riding and visits to many different places filled their days! Ruawai Lions will host four students from Methven during the summer school holidays.

Quiz Night – 28 October

Eleven teams of four from surrounding districts took part in a fun-filled Quiz evening. Quiz master Tony Radich delivered eight rounds of questions of varying levels of difficulty including some musical excerpts. The 'Motley Crew' won with the most points. The 'Quizlamic State' team won a prize for the most original team name. After winning teams had chosen their prizes a sumptuous supper was served! Ruawai Lions plan to run another Quiz night next year. Money raised from this event goes to Ruawai Primary School towards a school/community bike track.

Lions Senior Citizen's Christmas Function – Sunday 27 November

By the time you read this we will have had our annual Christmas function for our Senior Citizens. This is always a very popular event and well attended. We hope we can continue to hold this function for many more years.

Lions Annual Raffle

Drawn at the Senior Citizens' Christmas function. Tickets are selling well at the moment.

Music in the Garden – 12 February 2017

This event is coming up on Sunday 12 February at Evan and Brenda Robinson's garden on Dunn Road. The theme will be Valentine's Day. There will be great music, several raffles and food for sale. A great afternoon/ evening for all.

Annual Auction – 11 March 2017

This annual event will be held on Saturday 11 March at the Kaipara Kumara forecourt. We will soon be looking for donations of saleable items. For further information phone President Jim 4392557.

If you are interested in finding out more about Ruawai Lions or helping out at any of our events, please phone Secretary Dorothy Simpson 4392557 or email jdsimpson@slingshot.co.nz



On left: Exchange students that went to Methven with Tracy Goodger (organiser)



On right: Suzie Reyland and Jim Sephton



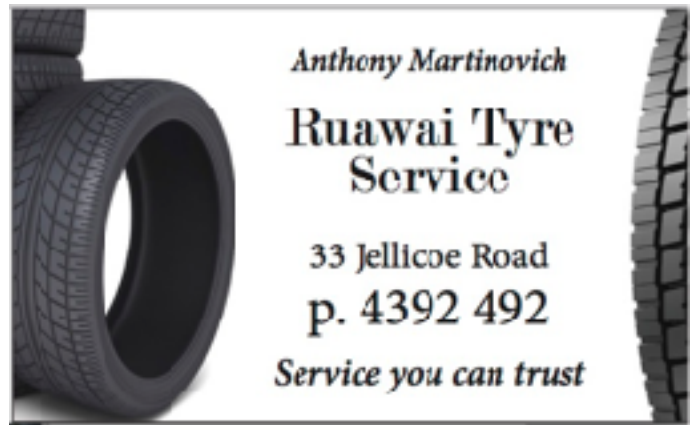
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 8am to 7pm Saturday

RUAWAI FOUR SQUARE
 FREYBERG RD, RUAWAI, PH 09 439 2011

AA



Anthony Martinovich

Ruawai Tyre Service

33 Jellicoe Road
 p. 4392 492

Service you can trust

T. W. Collins

Man of Many Faces

Tudor Washington Collins, Many of Many Faces

Photographer Extraordinaire

1898 - 1970

“There’s only one Tudor Washington Collins. And perhaps some of us might be moved on occasion to say, “Thank heavens for that.” - A. H. Reed

Bushworker, cook, soldier, sailor, businessman, entrepreneur, fisherman, hunter, roading contractor, farmer and townsman, the inimitable Tudor Washington Collins was truly a man of many faces, and his life and personality are reflected throughout the range of his photographic subject matter.

The “Tudor Washington Collins-Man of Many Faces” exhibition opens at The Kauri Museum on Friday 9 December 2016. The exhibition will be showcasing a series of Tudor’s most iconic images recording historical events as well as many that have never been seen before, bringing together collections and memorabilia from Museums and Archives across New Zealand.

Admission to the special exhibition is free with entry to The Kauri Museum.

Check out <http://www.kau.nz/visit/admission/> for admission prices to the museum
 Residents of the old Otamatea District are free of charge



A Message From our Kaipara Mayor

Well, the elections are over and our Council now has two Ruawai residents, Anna Curnow and I. We are both grateful for the huge level of support we received. We now just have to do the job well to justify that support!!

You are aware KDC hasn't had a Council for four years so there is very little knowledge of the workings of Council amongst us. We are getting up to speed as fast as possible with briefings being held twice weekly. Our aim is to have a good working knowledge of the role and our various communities by Christmas and then in the new year begin to formulate policy.

Its great news to see the lift in the fortunes of dairy farmers which will be good for our small towns and their businesses. A great Christmas gift.

Best regards
Greg Gent



Ruawai Kindergarten

4376A SHWY 12 Ruawai (09) 4392415 Email: ruawai@nka.org.nz or visit the Ruawai Kindergarten Facebook page.

RUAWAI KINDERGARTEN IMPORTANT DATES

20th Dec – End of Term 4, 2016

23rd Jan – First Day back Term 1, 2017



HOUSE GOODS GARAGE SALE

Down-sizing - Everything Has To go
80 Greenhill Road 4392077
Clothing - toddlers to farm clothes,
Swann dri's, raincoats, etc.
Bedding, Foam topper pads
Kitchen table (formica topped), utensils
and equipment
Furniture - bookcases, coffee tables,
cabinets, desks
Piano, Puzzles, Records, Knick
Knacks, Heaters,
De-Humidifier
Portable Folding Pool Table 1.2 x 2.4m
\$200 o.n.o.

We would like to extend a big THANK YOU to Kevin Reid Contracting, Craig, Jewelie & Colin Sterling and Brian Henderson for assisting us in filling up our sand pit for our tamariki. Many fun hours have been spent building and playing in the new sand.

An advertisement for Ruawai Auto Services. It features the company logo, a banner with the text "To all my customers Have a great Xmas & a Happy New Year", and a call to action "For all things automotive See the best in town!". A phone number "09 439 2424" and address "23 Freyberg St, Ruawai" are also included. A small sign in the bottom right corner says "DIESEL TUNING CHIPS AVAILABLE HERE NOW - FOR TRUCKS, UTES, TRACTORS AND MORE!".

Following is a short excerpt from the book "Memories of Ruawai, Tokatoka and Rehia". An excellent little book about our regional history. To buy a copy see the advertisement elsewhere in this Newsletter.

TOKATOKA AND ITS HISTORY



Have you climbed to the top of this peak? The view from this volcanic oddity is glorious. At this point you are just 390 ft. above sea level and for those interested in statistics, 76 miles north of Mt. Eden, Auckland in a direct line. Tokatoka is the core of an extinct volcano. There are other outcrops about, but none so odd as this one. Maungarau nearby, a hunchback rock, reaches 730 ft. Standing on the summit of Tokatoka is a bit like perching on the tip of an inverted ice cream cone. To get there you go through the domain. The start is gentle enough to have a clear patch of grass suitable for picnics, with seats and open fireplaces provided. I do not think that area is used much now, but was a popular place many years ago. Whole parties of school picnickers and Sunday school picnic groups were frequent users. From the summit can be seen the Northern Wairoa River which can be followed from the mouth, past Ruawai on to Te Kopuru and out of sight on the bend before it reaches Dargaville. Turn your back

on the Tasman, as seen through the Heads of the Kaipara Harbour, and you can, on a clear day, see the rocky bastions of Whangarei Harbour and the Hen and Chicken islands. Spread at your feet are the Ruawai flats, the long stretch of land down the western bank of the river from Te Kopuru almost to Pouto, and the highway almost to Dargaville.

Recipe: Mum's Christmas Pudding

From: Colleen Preston

Ingredients:

4oz butter
2 cups brown sugar
1 tbsp marmalade
2 eggs
1lb sultanas (rinsed)
1lb raisins (rinsed)
2 cups flour
1tsp baking powder
1tsp baking soda
1 tsp each of cinnamon, ginger and nutmeg
½ tsp each of lemon, vanilla and rum essences
1 dessert spoon of whiskey
1 dessert spoon of golden syrup
2 tbsp milk



Method:

Grease a largish pudding basin.
Cream the butter and sugar. Add marmalade.
Add the eggs and beat in well. Add the raisins and sultanas and stir to combine. Sift the flour, baking powder, baking soda, cinnamon, ginger and nutmeg. Add to the egg mixture with the essences, whiskey, golden syrup and milk. Stir to combine. Tip mixture into the pudding basin and cover with greaseproof paper or tin foil. Fit the lid tightly with string and put in a pot with water up to at least half way up the side of the basin. Boil gently for 3 1/2 hours. DO NOT BOIL DRY! To serve, tip out onto a plate and serve with cream, custard or icecream. For extra fun pour some brandy over the pudding and set it alight when serving!

Wishing you a very happy Christmas!

Sing- Along Christmas

Christmas Carol Sing-a Long in the Ruawai Hall

The Ruawai Promotions and Development Group is sponsoring a Community Christmas Carol Sing-a-Long. The program includes traditional Christmas Carols as well as "fun" Christmas songs. We will have a choir, piano and guitar to help you along.

Date: December 19

Time: 7.30 pm

Place: Social Lounge in the Ruawai Hall

All Welcome



MEMORIES of RUAWAI, TOKATOKA and REHIA

By Violet McLeod

A great Christmas gift.

Available from

**RD1, ElleCee Cafe, Ruawai Post Centre
and Suzanne Oud (439 2390)**

Come along and see the best display of Christmas lights that you have ever seen in Ruawai. Each year the Lindsays put up a fantastic display for anyone to go along and look at. This well and truly rivals anything you would see in the big cities. Make sure you get in early, don't wait until it's raining. Available to view in December on Wallace Road, Ruawai

hospice
Kaipara



HOSPICE SHOP

DARGAVILLE



**XMAS SALE
5 DECEMBER 2016
TO 31 DECEMBER 2016**

Phone 439 0692

We turn second hand goods into first class care



The Hospice Kaipara Truck will be joining the Ruawai Christmas



RUAWAI PROMOTIONS AND DEVELOPMENT GROUP

CHRISTMAS PARADE

17th December 2016

Stalls available. Phone Elaine on 4392221
Santa Photos at post shop on 7th, 8th, 14th
and 15th December.

Christmas Window decoration competition
Match the decoration with the business.

CHRISTMAS SONGS

19TH December

At the hall, gold coin donation
Come along and sing your heart out

